



Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	136911
Inspection date	19 April 2006
Inspector	Beverly Hallett
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Childminding

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The childminder was registered in 1996. She lives with her husband and two children in the Chislehurst area of the London Borough of Bromley. The children mainly use a dedicated playroom on the ground floor although all areas apart from the study and utility room are included in the registration. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of 4 children at any one time and is currently minding 10 children, all of whom attend part time. The childminder is happy to take and collect children to and from local schools.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association, a network childminder and a support childminder for the Bromley childminding support network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are well nourished and enjoy good quantities of appropriately prepared and suitably nutritious snacks, based on healthy eating guidelines. They are learning in fun ways about making healthy choices as the childminder plans activities around eating healthily.

Children play in a clean indoor environment. They are beginning to develop simple hygiene awareness through occasional reminders about washing hands before eating and after playing outside.

Children's individual personal care routines are appropriately respected and their physical good health is well maintained by the use of suitable creams and wipes to clean hands and face.

Children enjoy a good variety of rest and play opportunities appropriate to their age. The daily routine and organisation of the home, enables them to play outside, rest and choose from activities indoors or out as they wish. Their general health is ensured by the use of detailed documentation and records, although written permission to seek emergency medical treatment is not currently sought from parents.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a suitable and secure indoor and outdoor environment. They play safely in a suitably clean environment in which the childminder has taken some good precautions to keep children safe, for example, using a dedicated playroom which is equipped with suitable furniture, toys and resources.

The home is well organised and provides good space to offer children good opportunities to explore and experience a wide range of appropriate activities. Children access a good range of toys which are very clean and in a good state of repair by selecting from those stored in the play area.

Children are sufficiently protected from harm and neglect as the childminder's knowledge around child protection issues is good, and essential documents to ensure children's safety are in place.

Children are learning in fun ways to protect themselves, for example practising fire escape routes and what to do in an emergency.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children play enthusiastically in the playroom, choosing from a good range of toys which offer learning opportunities in all areas. They create using art and craft materials, pretend to cook

dinner using pots and pans and make shapes with the play dough. Children interact with and respond to the childminder very well, learning their colours and shapes, building with blocks and playing table top games.

Children thrive on the attention they receive from the childminder. They are becoming skilled communicators as the childminder talks and listens to them as they chat about what they are doing. The children benefit emotionally from close physical contact as the childminder kneels at the children's level to play with them, joining in with their games and letting them know that she values their company.

Children make connections and begin to understand the world, finding out about their local environment as they venture out into the wider community to visit children's farms, local museums and local parks.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs are met as the childminder has a clear understanding of their family background, religion and culture. Children are valued and respected and they are learning to have a positive approach to people from different backgrounds and religions through discussion and activities. However, toys and resources which offer children positive images of a diverse society are limited.

Children behave well towards each other, they are kind and caring and eager to help at tidy-up time. Children are learning to be polite and well mannered, saying please and thank you appropriately, sharing and taking turns. Children receive much praise and encouragement and this supports their positive self image and helps them to feel special and valued.

Children enjoy consistency of care as the childminder shares good information on their health and care routines with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provider meets the needs of the range of children for whom she provides.

Children play happily in a well organised play room which offers activities to promote learning in all areas. Their individual needs and interests are supported as they are offered a good variety of choice of what to play with from a good range of easily accessible and well organised toys and resources.

Although a lot of children are cared for, all attend part time and the childminder manages the daily routine sufficiently well to ensure all children receive appropriate care.

Children's safety is supported by essential documentation which is kept in good order. Attendance records are in place and note times and days of attendance appropriately. However,

these records are not organised in a way which enables them to be quickly and easily read in an emergency situation.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the childminder was given a recommendation under standard 13 to improve knowledge of child protection issues.

She has attended two training courses, one of which was offered by the local authority, the other is the NSPCC distance learning certificated course.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- gain written permission to seek emergency medical treatment
- increase toys and resources to provide positive images of today's diverse society
- ensure documentation, in particular child attendance registers, are clearly set out and organised so that they can be easily read and understood

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk